

TRIBUTE TO OLYMPIC WRESTLER  
DAVID TAYLOR

**HON. JIM JORDAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 2021*

Mr. JORDAN. Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize David Taylor for his outstanding wrestling performance at the Tokyo Olympic Games.

At the age of 8, David wrote down three goals: Win four high school state titles, win four college national championships, and win Olympic gold. Even at this young age, he had his mind set on objectives that would take countless hours of practice and dedication to accomplish.

David wasted no time on his mission, amassing an impressive 180–2 high school record, including four state championships, and graduated with a 4.0 grade point average from my alma mater, Graham High School in St. Paris, Ohio. He would then go on to become one of the most decorated wrestlers in Penn State University's history: Four Big Ten championships, a four-time finalist and two-time NCAA National Champion, and twice the winner of the Dan Hodge Trophy, given to the undisputed best college wrestler in the nation.

He then fixed his eyes on his final objective: Winning Olympic gold. With 17 seconds remaining in the gold medal match in Tokyo, Taylor scored a two-point takedown to give him his 52nd straight victory in international matches. David said afterward: "You've got to want it. You've got to want to be here."

David married the love of his life, Kendra, five years ago. Last month, on September 16, they welcomed baby Ivy into the world. David's parents, Dave and Kathy, currently reside in Chattanooga.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the people of Ohio's Fourth Congressional District, I am honored to celebrate David's accomplishments, his dedication to the sport of wrestling, his integrity and work ethic, and his outstanding contributions to the Olympic tradition. We wish him all the best in the future.

RECOGNIZING MISS KAYLYNN  
GONZALES

**HON. DAVID G. VALADAO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 2021*

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Miss Kaylynn Gonzales for her beautification of Valley Animal Haven in Lemoore, California.

Miss Gonzales is a Girl Scout Cadette from Hanford, California. This year, she led a team in beautifying Valley Animal Haven, a local pet adoption center. For this project, Miss Gonzales taught herself to paint and draw. Together, her team created and painted wooden cartoon animals for the facility's meet and greet pens. She also restored aging tables, chairs, and benches in the visitor's areas and installed new bark mulch in the meet and greet area. Miss Gonzales raised money to fund this project by selling cookies and collecting donations.

Miss Gonzales selected this project because she is committed to raising awareness for re-

sponsible pet ownership and the importance of adopting from local shelters. In beautifying Valley Animal Haven, Miss Gonzales hopes to encourage more adoptions from the shelter. Her work is greatly appreciated by the Valley Animal Haven community and those who share her honorable mission.

In recognition of her efforts, Miss Gonzales was awarded the Girl Scout Silver Award by the Girl Scouts of the USA, Central California South Council, Troop 3049. This is the highest honor a Girl Scout can receive at the Cadette level.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Miss Kaylynn Gonzales on this important achievement and recognizing her service to her community.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT  
OF OFFICER ROBIN W. BLOSS

**HON. SCOTT PERRY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 2021*

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, I am privileged and humbled to recognize Officer Robin W. Bloss upon the occasion of his retirement from the Penbrook Borough Police Force after more than thirty years of service.

Officer Bloss began his journey as a Paxtang Borough Police Officer upon completion of Officer Training at the PA State Police Training Center in Hershey. Despite his recent introduction to the Force, he managed to remain employed full-time as a maintenance electrician with the Ames Companies Inc., while working 20-hour weeks with the Department.

Officer Bloss later transitioned to the Penbrook Borough Police Department, serving as a Bike Patrol Officer and the Borough Business Contact for maintaining emergency notification information. Throughout his many years with the Department, he received a litany of awards for his service, to include: Medal of Valor; Certificate of Merit; and multiple Lifesaving Awards.

In the Fall of 2003, Officer Bloss received the Medal of Valor when he and Officer Swank saved an infant's life during a violent domestic dispute on Boas Street. His Certificate of Merit was earned as he was on duty when shots were fired at Capitol Police. He earned his three Lifesaving Awards for CPR performed throughout his decades of service.

Officer Bloss loved serving the community and was proud to wear the uniform, which he did with dignity and integrity. As proud as he was of his work in law enforcement, his three sons were his priority and focus of his greatest pride. He was blessed to serve simultaneously with two of his sons—one as Swatara Township K9 Police Officer, and one as a Dauphin County Dispatcher.

Throughout his work as a patrol and bike patrol officer, he served with distinction, working the job and community events that frequently took him away from his family and myriad holidays and special events. Despite his retirement, however, Officer Bloss will remain in service to citizens of the Borough of Paxtang as its EMA Coordinator.

I commend Officer Robin Bloss upon the auspicious occasion of his hard-earned retire-

ment and lifelong commitment. For his tireless, selfless, and loyal service to our community, Commonwealth, and Nation, I wish him Godspeed on his next adventures.

RECOGNIZING PATRICK LAVIN ON  
HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE  
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD  
OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS  
(IBEW) LOCAL NO. 47

**HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 2021*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, today I want to recognize Mr. Patrick Lavin, who has retired after serving seven terms as Business Manager and Financial Secretary of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local No. 47 in Diamond Bar, California. I thank Pat for his years of friendship and counsel and congratulate him on his retirement following his 55-year career at IBEW, during which he was one of the most effective and longest-serving members of the IBEW International Executive Council (IEC), among many other roles.

A journeyman lineman by trade, Pat joined IBEW Local 9 outside Chicago as a summer helper before his sophomore year in high school and came on the job full time in 1968. In 1969, Pat interrupted his IBEW career and volunteered to serve his country in the U.S. Marine Corps during the height of the Vietnam War.

Over his lengthy career, Pat was a lineman for four different utilities. He worked for Southern California Edison (SCE) as a lineman, service crew foreman, and heavy crew foreman in Redondo Beach, Huntington Beach, and Santa Ana.

Pat has said that he saw many different changes in the electrical industry over the course of his career, and that the need for the services of electrical workers has grown immensely over the past twenty years. In his decades on the job, Pat also weathered numerous challenges including recessions and periods of anti-union rhetoric. In his own words: "As a groundman, an apprentice and a lineman, I have helped keep the lights on since 1969."

In addition to seven terms as Business Manager and Financial Secretary of IBEW Local No. 47, Pat served five terms as the IBEW 7th District International Executive Council member. He was chosen as Secretary of the Council by the IEC in June 2003. During his many years in the field, Pat has worked for numerous IBEW signatory contractors and four utilities out of various local unions around the United States. When Pat took over Local 47 in 1999 it was a 4,500-member utility. Today, it serves 14,000 members in nearly 200 classifications over a nearly 80,000 square mile jurisdiction from the Pacific to Arizona and from Mexico to just south of Lake Tahoe.

Pat was also chairman & treasurer of the Coalition of California Utility Employees (CCUE), a board member of California Unions for Reliable Energy (CURE), an executive board member of the California State Association of Electrical Workers (CSAEW), and a member of the board of directors of California

Foundation on the Environment and the Economy (CFEE). He was a member of the Pacific Council on International Policy and served as chair of the IBEW No. 47 Retiree Medical Trust Fund, along with being a trustee of the Cal-Nevada IBEW/NECA JATC Board.

As a member of the IBEW International Executive Council, Pat was a trustee on the IBEW Pension Benefit Fund and all funds of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. In addition to those duties, he served on the National Employee Benefit Board (NEBB), which is the board of directors for the National Electric Benefit Fund (NEFB), National Electric Annuity Plan (NEAP), and the National Electric 401 K (NEFP). In June 2017, Pat was nominated California Veteran of the Year by the California State Assembly.

Pat holds a Bachelor's Degree in Organizational Management from Southern California College. He was married to his wife, Ellen, for 45 years prior to her passing in 2019 and recently married his current wife, Dianne. Pat has two daughters, two sons, and eleven grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Mr. Patrick Lavin for his many years of outstanding service to electrical workers in Southern California and nationwide and for his exemplary leadership "keeping the lights on."

#### HONORING JENNIFER REDMOND AS IOWAN OF THE WEEK

#### HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 2021*

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jennifer Redmond, the state executive director of Nebraska and Iowa for Susan G. Komen. Their mission is to save lives by meeting the most critical needs of their communities and investing in breakthrough research to prevent and cure breast cancer.

Susan G. Komen has invested in more than \$1.1 billion collectively in lifesaving breast cancer research since 1982. More than 1,200 Iowans seek help and information from Susan G. Komen every week, and all 99 counties in Iowa are served by Susan G. Komen breast cancer services.

All Iowans can get involved with Susan G. Komen through events and activities organized throughout the state, by becoming an individual advocate or by registering their workplace for volunteer programs, fundraising campaigns, and access to world-class breast cancer content. There are currently 1,786 people in Iowa who advocate for breast cancer rights with Susan G. Komen.

Jennifer and the team at Susan G. Komen also ensure everyone has access to quality screening, diagnosis, and treatment for breast cancer. Anyone who reaches out, no matter where they are in their breast cancer journey is welcome at Susan G. Komen.

Jennifer and her staff spend every day supporting organizations that provide vital services and research to Iowans and it is my pleasure to honor Jennifer Redmond as Iowan of the Week.

RECOGNIZING THE REDEDICATION OF THE TOWN OF TONAWANDA POLICE HEADQUARTERS AS THE "FRANK H. PFONNER PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING"

#### HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 2021*

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the rededication of the Town of Tonawanda Police Headquarters as the "Frank H. Pfonner Public Safety Building," in honor of Police Officer Frank H. Pfonner. Officer Pfonner, the only Town of Tonawanda Police Officer to have been killed in the line of duty.

Frank was born in June of 1893 to George and Elisabeth Pfonner. He was raised on the Pfonner family farm, located where Military Road meets Knoche Road today. The path that once connected the house to the barns has become Ensminger Road in Tonawanda.

Frank was one of the first officers hired by the Town of Tonawanda Police Department. He became Constable for the Town, and during his years of service risked his life to protect those in Tonawanda on many occasions. In one instance, he incurred a gunshot wound to the head, but later returned to duty.

Frank would be killed in a hit-and-run incident while on his motorcycle, ending his watch over the Town of Tonawanda on April 8, 1923.

Frank had no children, but his commitment to service lived on through his family. His brother, Elmer G. Pfonner, would serve in the First World War. Upon his return, Elmer served as a Constable much like Frank. However, Elmer resigned when his parents became distraught at the thought of losing another son.

Elmer went on to have five children, who would have been Frank's nieces and nephews. Two of Frank's nephew served in the Korean War, and the youngest of the nephews would go on to have four children. As a symbol of the legacy of Officer Pfonner, the youngest of the children was named Frank H. Pfonner, after his great uncle.

Town of Tonawanda Supervisor Joseph Emminger, the Town Board, and Police Chief James Stauffiger are to be commended for remembering the life and legacy of Officer Pfonner through rededication of the Town of Tonawanda Police Headquarters in his honor.

This tribute will serve as a lasting reminder of the great sacrifices made by Officer Frank H. Pfonner and all police past and present who risk their own lives to serve our communities.

HONORING THE INSTALLATION OF LAMONT REPOLLET AS PRESIDENT OF KEAN UNIVERSITY

#### HON. ALBIO SIRE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 2021*

Mr. SIRE. Madam Speaker, today, I recognize and congratulate Lamont Repollet's installation as the 18th leader of Kean University. He has been a dear friend for many years, and I believe he is an excellent choice

to take on the role of President of Kean University.

Lamont Repollet has demonstrated a lifelong commitment to educating students in New Jersey. He started as a teacher and coach in an urban area, an experience we share and one that has informed his entire career. As a principal and then superintendent, he implemented many initiatives including those focused on closing the opportunity gap, increasing graduation rates, and creating new leadership and literacy programs.

He brought his dedication to equity and opportunity to the state level as Commissioner of Education and applied everything he learned in his prior roles toward improving our education system. He did this while tackling the immense challenge of restructuring student learning during the COVID-19 pandemic. Lamont Repollet has broken barriers as the first Black principal of Carteret High School, the first Black Commissioner of Education of the State of New Jersey, and now, the first Black president of Kean University, where he has deep ties. As an alumnus and former member of the Board of Trustees, he has knowledge of, and a commitment to, the students, faculty, and community.

Madam Speaker, I know that he will work hard to create new opportunities for students while creating an environment in which everyone can flourish. It is my great honor to recognize this milestone for Lamont Repollet and Kean University and I know that there are great things ahead.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 2119, THE FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND SERVICES IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2021

#### HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 2021*

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, today, I voted in favor of H.R. 2119, the Family Violence Prevention and Services Improvement Act. It is important for our Nation to address the scourge of domestic violence, which affects far too many residents of our country, and I am disappointed that the legislation before the House today could not be written, and ultimately passed, on a bipartisan basis. Domestic violence transcend politics and does not discriminate based on political preference.

There are provisions in this legislation that are important to constituencies I represent. My home state of Oklahoma is home to some of the largest Tribal populations. I am pleased that H.R. 2119 provides increased resources to Tribal nations to fully respond to domestic violence in their communities. Specifically, H.R. 2119 increases the tribal set-aside for grant funding from 10 percent to 12.5 percent. This increased set-aside will improve technical assistance to Tribes, development of domestic violence prevention strategies, and implementation of community responses to reduce risk factors for family violence. Moreover, the implementation of a new emergency hotline dedicated to serving Indians affected by domestic violence will significantly benefit the Native American population.

Yet I also recognize that the bill voted on today has some very real problems. I have